

Some of the entities discussed are common but many are rare. Aside from the hereditary aspects this book gives a concise description and summary of all that is known of them. I find it most interesting and worth while and believe that not only dermatologists but all physicians and students and others in medical and related fields will also find it so.

HERMAN V. ALLINGTON, M.D.

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**AN ATLAS OF HUMAN ANATOMY—Second Edition**—Barry J. Anson, Ph.D. (Med.Sc.), Robert Laughlin Rea Professor, Emeritus, Department of Anatomy, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago; Research Professor, Department of Otolaryngology and Maxillofacial Surgery, College of Medicine, State University of Iowa, Iowa City; Visiting Professor of Otolologic Anatomy, Department of Surgery, University of California, Los Angeles; and formerly, National Research Council Fellow in Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Boston. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa., 1963. 632 pages, \$18.00.

The feature which has distinguished Professor Anson's *Atlas of Human Anatomy*, ever since its first issuance a dozen years ago, has been the insistence upon the nature and degree of anatomical variation in the organ, nerve, muscular and vascular pattern of the human body. His purpose, said the author in the first edition, was to prepare an atlas of serial dissections and to exhibit statistically the natural occurrence of variation so that individual observations would find their place as predictable elements in the exposure of the parts. In this way over-simplified and stereotyped concepts of human morphology would be avoided.

These principles have been maintained and extended in this, the second edition, of the atlas. The statistical information in variation has been brought up to date, and frequently the data condensed by reduction to a single plate. Although it is stated that no less than 150 new illustrations have been provided, by and large the instructional plates remain much the same but some have been reduced or increased in size or re-arranged in a series. However, there is little doubt that the new edition is a solid improvement over its predecessor. A pleasing feature is the inclusion of plates derived from John Warren, Harvard's distinguished professor of anatomy, in the production of which the author had a hand. Throughout, the plates have maintained in general the same high quality of reproduction found in the first edition, although there are a few which are dull and flat (e.g. pp. 346, 465, 484, 485, 600, 612) which may be due to unevenness in printing as evidenced by the same illustration on pp. 437 and 549, in which the latter is quite inferior in the reviewer's copy.

The reviewer wonders why it was found necessary to illustrate the findings in the dead of the position of the hollow viscera and such things as the shape of the stomach. In view of the dynamics of the alimentary tract these matters are surely better illustrated from radiograms in the living. Incidentally, the total absence of radiograms should be noted. Likewise, some of the dynamic features of muscle action and motion are not very well done and are perhaps unnecessary. A few other minor blemishes were observed, such as the failure to recognize that the foramen caecum is truly "blind" in most instances and does not usually transmit an emissary vein, as shown by Boyd many years ago. However, such criticisms are minor and express differences of opinion.

The atlas is an excellent one and unique in its conception. The medical student, the physician, and especially the surgeon, will find that this uniqueness provides him with a reference tool of first importance.

J. B. DEC. M. SAUNDERS, M.D.

**CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL HYPNOSIS—In Medicine, Dentistry and Psychology**—William S. Kroger, M.D., formerly Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Chicago Medical School; Past President, The Academy of Psychosomatic Medicine; Advisory Editor, International Journal of Clinical & Experimental Hypnosis, Journal of Psychosomatics, and Western Journal of Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology; Fellow, International Society for Clinical & Experimental Hypnosis, American Society of Clinical Hypnosis; Board of Directors, Institute for Research in Hypnosis, New York. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pa., 1963. 361 pages, \$12.50.

This book, the latest in a spate of books on this subject which have crossed the reviewer's desk, seems, alas, to have all the defects of the preceding ones and to remedy none of the evils. In its merit, is the clear exposition of the methods and techniques of hypnotic induction and the areas of its employment. This is done in a lucid and fairly complete fashion. This is hardly, however, of any advantage to science. Each book on hypnosis seems to do this quite well and none of them, in the reviewer's opinion, equal, in terse and explicit lucidity, a light pamphlet entitled "Hypnosis in 20 Easy Lessons," published by an unknown author some time around the turn of the century which costs 25 cents, is printed on cheap, pulp paper, and can be found in any sex bookstore.

The author of this book, like so many others in the field, seemed neither challenged, interested, nor knowledgeable about the many answered theoretical questions raised by hypnosis. It is clear that hypnosis is a complex symbol, in itself, in the unconscious mind and, in consequence, there are decided disadvantages, risks, and contraindications to its use. These, as is usually the case, have the barest of mention.

In the opinion of the reviewer, the shortcomings of the book reflect the fact that the author has not had any thorough training in psychiatry or in the theory of personality formation. His interest in hypnosis appears to have developed in the framework of his obstetric-gynecological practice and while his zealous application to the practical techniques of hypnosis is altogether commendable, the avoidance of the many theoretical problems which it raises is unfortunate. This approach no doubt reflects the author's very simplistic view of neuroses. In his preface, he states that his primary approach is to deal with what a psychiatrist would call the secondary gains of illness; i.e., helping the patient to understand the need that he has for the symptom. The author is "convinced that the neuroses and functional psychoses are due to disturbed cortical dynamics following continued stress rather than to unconscious conflicts."

It is difficult to reconcile this oversimplistic conception of psychological illness with the diversity and scope of mental life as seen in clinical practice.

A really good book on hypnosis remains yet to be written.

C. W. WAHL, M.D.

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**BILHARZIASIS—Ciba Foundation Symposium**, held in commemoration of Theodore Maximilian Bilharz. Edited by G. E. W. Wolstenholme, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., M.R.C.P., and Maeve O'Connor, B.A. Little, Brown and Company, Boston 6, Mass., 1962. 433 pages, with 46 illustrations, \$11.50.

This book is the published account of a symposium held in Cairo, Egypt, on March 18-22, 1962 in commemoration of the centenary of the death of Dr. Theodore Bilharz, who discovered the trematode worm in 1851, a species that causes schistosomiasis in Egypt. The text of the book contains a series of papers by invited investigators on parasites causing schistosomiasis, their vectors, pathogenesis, host response, treatment and methods of controlling the disease.

In addition to presentation by investigators, the attributes of this volume include pertinent observations and discussion after presented blocks of papers and summaries and recommendations for future laboratory, clinical and field research.

It is interesting to compare the contents of this volume, published in 1962, with a volume on "Schistosomiasis" published (John Bale, Sons and Danielson, Ltd., London), in 1934 by an Egyptian physician, Dr. Ramesis Girges. Even though an interval of approximately thirty years has elapsed between the two publications, schistosomiasis remains a major medical and public health problem with no available satisfactory drug for treatment and great difficulties in diagnosis and control of the infection. Consequently, the present volume is recommended to those who wish to be brought up-to-date about the current status of our knowledge and research with these widespread tropical infections, with the hope that the volume will stimulate and intensify laboratory, clinical and field research with this important group of human diseases. Great gaps in our knowledge about the pathogenesis of the disease were pointed out, but no sections on laboratory diagnosis were included in the symposium. On a world-wide basis, this disease is of great medical importance but, except for schistome dermatitis, which can occur in the U.S.A., the infection is primarily of interest to clinicians in the region of New York City, who seek to diagnose infections in native-born Puerto Ricans who have migrated to this country or in patients who came here from such endemic areas as the Nile River Valley, new endemic areas of the Middle East and the Philippine Islands. Fortunately, the required species of snails, as intermediate hosts of human schistosomes, are lacking in this country to complete the life cycle and effect transmission to our native born population.

QUENTIN M. GEIMAN, Ph.D.

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**CLINICAL MANUAL OF ORTHOPEDIC TRACTION TECHNIQUES**—Gerhard Schmeisser, Jr., M.D., Chief of Orthopedic Surgery, Baltimore City Hospitals; Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Illustrated by Robert Kern. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa., 1963. 60 pages, \$4.50.

Any individual who has been directly or indirectly involved in the establishment and maintenance of a correct orthopedic traction device would upon undertaking to review Dr. Schmeisser's manual be faced with a problem. The problem would be that of controlling his enthusiasm and gratitude to such an extent that an objective appraisal of the manual could be made. The reviewer is confident that a great number of students as well as professional and non-professional members of the hospital team will find this book to be of immeasurable value in their day to day work and education.

The first part of the book presents traction in terms of its prospective in orthopedic therapeutics. The value, limitations and complications of traction are also briefly mentioned. A discussion of the importance of exercise and the principles of traction therapy complete the conceptual considerations. Practical topics of equipment, knot-tying and encircling devices are then dealt with.

The remainder of the book concerns itself with the standard forms of traction and their variations. It is divided into skin traction techniques and skeletal traction techniques. In each section there is discussion of the general principles involved in the particular technique. This is followed by detailed explanation of many individual traction set ups. Let us take, as an example, the section on "Dunlop's Traction for Transcondylar and Supracondylar Fractures of the Humerus in Children": the following was presented; a com-

plete diagram of the traction as established, a list of all equipment necessary to establish it, the clinical value and limitations of the device, the precautions that should accompany its employment, useful variations and refinements, and finally a diagram demonstrating post traction immobilization.

The part on skeletal traction provides the same detailed technical information along with basic considerations where they are relevant. This section is highlighted by a sound presentation of the clinical use of Kirschner wires and Steinmann pins. Included in this division is a presentation of important anatomic landmarks for inserting apparatus for skeletal traction. There are some admirable characteristics of this book which are not made evident by a listing of its contents. The illustrations are superb and, themselves, are frequently adequate explanation for one to establish the traction. The subject matter is presented in a clear, concise, stepwise manner. Most problems are anticipated, and instructions for their prevention or resolution provided. The book is spiced with many "pearls," which are most helpful and sometimes, unfortunately, only learned by the less enjoyable process of trial and error. Significant considerations dealing with nursing problems and patient comfort are also given adequate attention.

This book is written as a brief functional manual and does not, by any means, include all traction arrangements. A good bibliography is presented for the reader interested in further study in the topics involved. There is, of course, room for disagreement about the plans of management of some of the fractures; however, these are not presented in a dogmatic fashion.

This book has a great value in its practical effectiveness as a clinical manual; it will also be of considerable worth as a teaching aid. The reviewer is impressed with its potential as a tool of communication between doctors, nurses and central supply personnel. By referring to the numbered illustrations, with their lists of required equipment, when ordering traction apparatus all persons involved could know precisely what is requested. This would alleviate the all too familiar problem of not having the proper materials for the desired traction. Because of its practical effectiveness, significant education usefulness, this book is a distinct contribution to clinical orthopedics.

AUGUST WHITE, M.D.

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**CLINICAL DISORDERS OF FLUID AND ELECTROLYTE METABOLISM**—Edited by Morton H. Maxwell, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of California (Los Angeles) School of Medicine; Attending Specialist in Medicine, Veterans Administration Center, Los Angeles; and Charles R. Kleeman, M.D., Chief of Medicine, Mount Sinai Hospital; Associate Professor of Medicine, University of California (Los Angeles) School of Medicine. The Blakiston Division, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 330 West 42nd Street, New York 36, N. Y., 1962. 512 pages, \$16.00.

The growing importance of disorders in electrolyte metabolism in all branches of clinical medicine has led to an increasing number of texts on this subject. Two multi-authored volumes have now appeared which in itself attests to the growing complexity of this field. One of these is Clinical Disorders of Fluid and Electrolyte Metabolism edited by M. H. Maxwell and C. R. Kleeman. The purpose of this work, as stated by the editors, is to provide "a practical working knowledge . . . for every practicing physician." The topics covered, in line with the aim of achieving general usefulness, are: (1) basic physiological principles, (2) renal disorders (acute and chronic), (3) endocrine mediated disorders, (4) edematous states, and (5) disorders seen in obstetrical and pediatric practices. Although a wide range